



March 17, 2021
Frederick County Sustainability Commission
Meeting Minutes



The meeting was held via WebEx.

Per current practice, the meeting is also streamed live on Facebook at Frederick County Sustainability Commission and made available via phone (**1-855-925-2801, Code 9813**) for listening.

Present: Chair: Elizabeth Law, Vice-Chair: Faith Klareich, Secretary: Mark Sankey, Kevin Sellner, Bill Steigelmann, Ron Kaltenbaugh (PT), Jennifer Bird, Jim Reed

Frederick County Council Liaison: Not Represented

OSER staff: Shannon Moore, Dawn Ashbacher

Guests/Public: None

Opening:

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Betty Law and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mark Sankey asked for any discussion on the minutes of the Commission meeting of February 17, 2021. The minutes were approved by the Commissioners present without comment. The vote was unanimous except for abstentions by Ron and Jim. Kevin arrived late after approval of the minutes.

Recruitment of Commissioners – Faith Klareich, Betty Law

Following Executive Committee discussion and proposed initiatives for Commission consideration.

- Reappointment of the following was discussed and recommended by unanimous vote of Commissioners present. It was noted that Kevin Sellner chose not to reapply in order to fully pursue other commitments which support sustainability efforts.
 - Jennifer Bird
 - Elizabeth Law
 - James Reed
 - Bill Steigelmann

- The Executive Committee offered thoughts on recruitment of new members and discussion followed.
- Faith recommended defining skill sets for effective pursuit of new members.
- Commission members moved and unanimously approved Faith's development of a skill set document.
- Dawn was requested to add term expiration dates to a list of members to help maintain skill balance.

Subcommittees – Commission Discussion

Members reviewed the spreadsheet of subcommittee membership.

- We were reminded that subcommittee membership must be less than a commission quorum which currently is 5.
- To avoid the quorum issue, Mark and Ron removed themselves from the Creek ReLeaf subcommittee.
- Mark offered to be point person for the Sugarloaf Mt. corridor plan subcommittee and will coordinate review comments.
- The schedule for the subcommittee efforts was confirmed.

Carbon Monoxide Awareness Poster – Betty Law, Jenn Bird

- We acknowledge the contribution of Taylor Simon who contributed the graphic design work for the poster.
- We will ask Taylor to add the following, "This poster promoted by the Frederick County Sustainability Commission."
- Dawn was asked to investigate potential for county-wide distribution of the poster.

OSER Update – Dawn Ashbacher, Shannon Moore

- OSER continues applications for Federal funds for pond retrofits including at Point of Rocks, and also for other projects.
- The next round of Creek ReLeaf funding is in progress. A presentation is expected next month.
- Solar coops have been effectively promoted by the county. Current opportunity is developing for a greater range of involvement across the DMV region.
- Coops for EV charging are also developing.
- Release of the Sugarloaf corridor plan is uncertain.
- The county has received a Power Saver Retrofit grant of \$400,000 for low to moderate income households.

Commissioner Interest – All

- Betty mentioned Frederick News-Post regular publication of a column, Green Notices. This offers potential use by FCSC for dissemination of information to the public.
- Faith provided a schedule for the South Frederick Corridor Plan Working Group charettes; April 6, 8, and 15, from noon to 2:00 pm each day. Anyone interested to attend should call to confirm attendance and outline notes for the session are available.
- Ron will circulate a notice for an upcoming EV panel discussion.
- Kevin provided CEMWG updates.
 - Meetings with City Alderpersons and Mayor are upcoming.
 - Philadelphia has made an index available for advancing sustainable practices which assists evaluation of future development and public health impacts.
 - The group continues outreach to business community to enhance awareness and share experiences
 - Healthy Building issues are being incorporated into the group's activities.
- Kevin also reported on efforts to address sources of nitrogen loading on the Monocacy River Basin.
- Bill noted his involvement with CEMWG on energy issues. He suggests a letter to News-Post Editor acknowledging the City's application of renewable energy credits.
- Betty mentioned energy considerations with the CCWG (Climate Change Working Group) had included discussion of nuclear energy. The deliberation addresses that nuclear power has no GHG emissions but requires uranium mining and produces nuclear waste, both having environmental impacts.
- Faith expressed concern over the lack of public information related to tree cutting at the Monocacy National Battlefield and potential impact on the water basin.

Public Comment

2 minute limit per person

No public attendance or comments.

Letter of Interest – Commission Appointment – Tiffany Fossett

The Commission welcomed Tiffany who provided a brief introduction. She has a background with the county library and has experience in project leadership and community issues. She has interest in sustainability and is currently pursuing a degree in urban planning with a minor in project management. Her library work provided research experience. She serves on the Affordable Housing Council of Frederick County and has GIS and cartography capability. She

was asked if she had the time to devote to serving Commission activity and her energy to do so was evident.

Motion to Go Into Closed Session

A motion was made to go into closed session and was approved unanimously.

The meeting was proposed to be in closed session pursuant to Maryland Annotated Code General Provisions Article 3305(b) (1) To discuss: (i) The appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or official over whom it has jurisdiction; or (ii) Any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

The Commission entered Closed Session at 4:24 pm.

Return to Open Session

The Commission returned to Open Session at 4:37 pm.

Commission Appointment

A motion was made to accept Tiffany Fossett's letter of interest and recommend her appointment to the Commission. The motion was approved unanimously.

Dawn will advise Joyce Grossnickle of this decision and Betty will advise Tiffany as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 pm.